Prof. Nanjundappa Committee. Thus, enough money has been provided. Then, another point was raised; as far as the Swarna Vidhan Soudha is concerned, while Rs. 70 crores were indeed provided in 2007-08, not a pie could be spent because plans were not finalised. We are, therefore, providing Rs. 50 crores. The Vidhan Soudha will be built in Belgaum. There is some dispute about land. That dispute will be resolved. There is enough money. Please remember, I am still leaving Rs. 2972 crores revenue surplus for a Government to come and spend as it wants to spend! There is enough money to spend, no need to worry at all. Then, Sir, there was some question about Sanvyaya Suraksha. Again, there is a mistake. First, the people are to be identified. This identification process was not completed during the previous Government. We have now completed the process of identification. 1.64 lakh persons have been identified. Under this scheme, Rs. 400 per month will be provided as old-age pension to the identified beneficiaries. I have instructed officers of the Karnataka Government to begin the disbursal of this pension to the identified beneficiaries. 1 will also speak to the Governor to see to it that the disbursal takes place.

Sir, to conclude, I am grateful that Shri Janardhana Poojary has been kind to me. It is not a question of change of the heart. There are times when the head has to rule and there are times when the heart has to rule. 1 have repeatedly made it clear that the kind of financial stability and financial comfort that we have today was not available in the last nine years. It was certainly not available to any NDA Finance Minister because of their poor record in fiscal mangement. I am not saying that they have a poor record elesewhere. In terms of fiscal management that record is poor. I have read the figures this morning. We inherited a very difficult fiscal situation. Fiscal deficit was high; revenue deficit was high. We have brought down fiscal deficit to 3.1 per cent this year and the revenue deficit to 1.4 per cent. For next year, we have brought it down to 2.5 and 1 per cent. We have created fiscal space. Therefore, today, we can take certain risks, which I could not have taken last year and which I couldn't have taken the year before, and while outlays were increased year after year; to undertake something so ambitious as a loan waiver scheme was possible only this year. That is why you will find outlays for health have increased tremendously; outlays for education have increased tremendously; outlays for rural development have increased tremendously. We have taken a great responsibility in extending NREGS throughout the country. All this is possible because of sound fiscal management over the last three years and if our fiscal management continues to be equally sound in the future over the next ten-twenty years, you will find that every Finance Minister allows his heart to rule and the head to take the second place. But there are times when the head has to rule and heart is to take second place. But the head and the heart, I assure Janardhanaji, are in the right place as far as this Finance Minister is concerned. Thank you.

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU: Sir, most of the issues have been covered. But 1 want to say one thing. There is not much quarrel about allocation and he said that there is space and scope. The only issue that we raised persistently is about expenditure and about what is happening in the administration, the need for either early popular rule or as just the hon. Finance Minister said to take up with the State administration to see that these allocations are spent. Otherwise, time will be lost.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: We all know that there is political instability, political uncertainty and there is the President's Rule. There is some slowing down of expenditure. That is not unusual for Karnataka 1 have witnessed it in Tamil Nadu twice in the last fifteen years and it is witnessed everywhere. The point is, I do not fix the date for elections. It is the Election Commission that does that. Why are we afraid of Vote-on-account for six months?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I shall now put the motion regarding consideration of the Karnataka Appropriation Bill, 2008 to vote. The question is:

That the Bill to provide for the withdrawal of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of the State of Karnataka for the services of the financial year 2007-08, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

Clauses 2, 3 and the Schedule were added to the Bill

Clause J, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, I move:

That the Bill be returned.

The question was put and the motion was adopted

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned to meet tomorrow at 11.00 a.m.

The House then adjourned at fifty-one minutes past four of the clock till eleven of the clock on Tuesday, the 18th March, 2008.

GMGIPMRAND—3139RS—18.3.09